

T. Ishida, et al.
U.S.S.N. 10/752,463)
Page -3-

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An image-forming method comprising a step where an electrostatic latent image on an electrostatically charged-image holder is developed with a developer fed from a developer carrier and a step where the above developed image is transferred onto a transferring material, wherein the above electrostatically charged-image holder has a radius of curvature of 18 mm or less in a development effective range; the above developer is a two-component developer comprising a toner comprising at least a binder and a colorant and a carrier which is coated with a resin and has a weight average particle diameter of 40 to 100 μm ; the above toner has a volume average particle diameter of 8 to 11.5 μm ; and the toner particles having a diameter of 6.35 μm or less account for 20 number % or less, and wherein the developing step described above satisfies the following equation:

$$0.12 \leq \{(R_m + D_{sd}) \times k\} / (R_d \times T) \leq 0.35$$

wherein R_m represents a radius (mm) of curvature of the developer carrier; R_d represents a radius (mm) of curvature of the electrostatically charged-image holder in the development effective range; k represents a ratio of a peripheral speed (mm/sec) of the developer carrier to a peripheral speed (mm/sec) of the electrostatically charged-image holder; D_{sd} represents a minimum proximity distance (mm) between the electrostatically charged-image holder and the

T. Ishida, et al.
U.S.S.N. 10/752,463)
Page -4-

devcloper carrier; and T represents a number % of the toner particles having a diameter of 6.35
μm or less.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Original) The image-forming method as described in claim 9, wherein the electrostatically charged-image holder and the developer carrier rotate in directions reverse to each other in the development effective range described above.

12. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in ~~any of claims 9 to 11~~ ~~claim 9 or claim 11~~, wherein a variation coefficient in toner particle size distribution in terms of number is 35 or less.

13. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in ~~claim 9 or claim 11~~ ~~any of claims 9 to 11~~, wherein used is the toner described above comprising toner particles having a diameter falling in a range of 4.00 to 5.04 μ m in a range of 2 to 6 number % and toner particles having a diameter falling in a range of 5.04 to 6.35 μ m in a range of 2 to 10 number %.

14. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in ~~claim 9 or claim 11~~ ~~any of claims 9 to 11~~, wherein used is the developer in which a charging series of the toner described above has a negative charging property.

T. Ishida, et al.
U.S.S.N. 10/752,463)
Page -5-

15. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in claim 9 or claim 11 any
~~of claims 9 to 11~~, wherein the binder contained in the toner described above is a styrene base
resin.

16. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in claim 9 or claim 11 any
~~of claims 9 to 11~~, wherein the carrier described above is an iron powder carrier.

17. (Currently Amended) The image-forming method as described in claim 9 or claim 11 any
~~of claims 9 to 11~~, wherein the resin coating the carrier described above is a silicon resin.